

THE OBSERVER



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Left to right: The new Student Association Executive Board. Mikus (President), Klebs (Vice President), Kopczyk (Treasurer), Hartle (Secretary).

Under New Direction: New S.A.

Executive Board Members

New paths are forged as the election results are finalized and the Student Senate receives new leadership

By Bridget Newman, Editor in Chief

On Friday, November 14th, the new executive officers for the 2004 Student Association (S.A.) were announced to the SJC faculty, staff, and student body. The new President is sophomore biology and chemistry major Heather Mikus. Her running mate and the new S.A. Vice President is fellow sophomore and fellow biology and chemistry major Marissa Klebs. The pair took just over half the votes, with 135 total. S.A. Presidential candidate Jacob Lofgren and running mate Becky Scherer took over 30% of the votes, with 81. The third candidates, Tony Salati and running mate Brandon Tritan, finished with about 16% of the votes.

Junior accounting major Amanda Hartle won the votes for S.A. Treasurer over sophomore political science and international studies major Jean Monfort. Hartle finished less than twenty votes ahead.

Junior political science major Caleb Kopczyk was the sole candidate for Secretary, but was subject to any write-in candidates. Kopczyk won with 205 votes. The new Director of the Stu-

dent Union Board, junior Elementary Education major Casey Wagner, will also sit on the Student Association Executive Board.

Mikus is looking forward to an exciting year with the new board as President. She believes that, despite being sophomores, she and Klebs have had enough experiences and involvement to step up to the challenges faced by the Executive Board. She commented, "After attending [SJC] for a year and a half, seeing and understanding the operations and policies of this school, I felt as though I could contribute more to benefit all of the students in various areas of their college experiences..."

Mikus' busy schedule is an asset to her leadership abilities; her involvement has made her more organized and successful in dealing with time management. Mikus is involved as President of Right to Life, Vice President of Alpha Lambda Delta, Vice President of Gallagher Charitable Honor Society, and Treasurer of Habitat for Humanity. She is also involved with stu-

dent tutoring services, the Science club, the Science Olympiad, and several campus ministry organizations. This heavy participation has yielded an opportunity to become well-acquainted with many people on and off campus. "Developing all of these relationships has allowed me to be viewed as very accessible to all students," she said.

One student group some feel has gone unnoticed is the commuter student population. Mikus feels that Klebs will successfully redeem the connection with this part of the Puma population as a commuter student and willing listener. Klebs has already served on the Student Senate as governor of the commuter students. Klebs comments that her unique position as a non-resident gives her a strong basis for understanding the importance of "involvement and a feeling of community with the campus." Klebs knows much about involvement through holding leadership positions in ALD and the Science Olympiad, being a tutor, Relay for Life participant, and freshman leader. Like Mikus, Klebs feels she is skilled in deal-

ing with time management and organization, essential qualities for S.A. Executive Board members.

Mikus and Klebs have outlined four goals for their coming term. First, they would like to see increased communication between administration, faculty, and the student body of SJC. In addition, the pair would like to "increase Puma Pride while expanding our sense of community throughout campus and beyond," Mikus said. The pair would also like to work on a clearer interpretation of the Puma Guide rules. Lastly, Mikus and Klebs would like to create more focus on the relationship between the Senate and S.U.B. "Because S.U.B. is under new direction, it is the perfect opportunity to get a lot accomplished so that there is more participation in S.U.B. events," Mikus stated in her candidate profile.

Mikus and Klebs are looking forward to working with Hartle, Kopczyk, Wagner, and the Student Senate this coming term and hope to see all of their outlined goals accomplished during their time in office.

NEWS

TRICK OR TREAT FOR THE HUNGRY RESULTS

P.W.T. RALLIES IN INDIANAPOLIS

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POET PATTI WHITE READS AT SJC

SPORTS

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OPINION

TOP TEN LIST: VIDEO GAMES VS. WOMEN

ET CETERA
PUMA POETRY

MUSINGS, CONSIDERATIONS, AND OBSERVATIONS IN GENERAL

By Becky Scherer, *Editor in Chief*

We are a technology-reliant people. This is not our fault—we were brought up with the knowledge of these machines and concepts and we changed as they changed, adapting our lives to the current trends.

Naturally, then, when the power goes out around campus, for instance, we are at a loss as to what to do with ourselves. In the past, living in the dorms through power shortages has allowed me to see the emergence of girls from their rooms, blinking, stepping into the dim emergency lights, not sure how to handle themselves in group interactions, sans radio, television, and internet.

Ah, internet. Let's talk about that for a while. At least twice in the past few days the server (or whatever it is that allows us to view web pages, access our network drives, et cetera—I'm not going to pretend to know anything worthwhile about what keeps us online) has "gone down." Specifically, the AOL Instant Messenger service has been made unavailable during these times. I'm just as AIM-dependant as the next person (probably more so, if we're being completely honest), but I always find the campus' reaction a little sad when we are denied our chatting venue. My ears perk up when I hear the horrifying noise-alert that signifies a disconnection; I furrow my brow at the window as I'm told to "check my internet connection"; I stare in disbelief as the blue circle around the little yellow running-man never appears. And as I furiously click "sign on" several hundred times, I realize that it's time to accept the inevitable: the AIM service really "can't" be reached right now" (emphasis added).

That, of course, is an extreme case of panic and the fight-or-flight response system, but you get the idea. Next to a shortage of ranch salad dressing in the Caf, a few hours without AIM is arguably the next worst nightmare a student can experience.

I find it amusing, though, that as a campus of less than a thousand students we are so contingent on the AIM service... myself included. Oftentimes when it would be significantly easier to just speak my thoughts, I find myself pecking frantically at the keyboard to convey my message. It's not uncommon to find my roommates and me conversing through five different AIM windows—wouldn't it make much more sense to just speak to one another in the living room, since it's less than thirty feet from any specific point in the apartment? Yes; yes it would. It would even be more convenient to just shout our comments loud enough for all to hear. But, alas, we demean ourselves and sink so lowly as to use "chat acronyms" such as "LOL" (Laughing Out Loud), "BRB" (Be Right Back), and "TTYL" (Talk To You Later).

Is it laziness? a fear of social interaction? are we not sure how to portray ourselves without the safety net of the protection of our true selves through internet fibs?

When did we become so reliant on time allotted text messages?

Top 10

Reasons Why Video Games are Better than Women

10. Unlike a relationship, if the game isn't working right, you can reset it.
 9. You don't have to be good to score.
 8. An easier and safer way to kill time.
 7. More buttons to play with.
 6. The more you play them, the better you know them.
 5. In the long run, they're cheaper!
 4. Every play is a guaranteed good time!
 3. Games last as long as you do.
 2. They obey your every command.
- ...And the number one reason why video games are better than women...
1. Video games don't get jealous when you switch to other games.

** Compiled by Roman Rodriguez with the assistance of Luke Hansen, Jordan Scott, and Kurt Laurinaitis. **

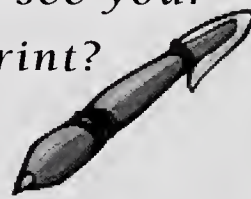
PAWS:

...to all the candidates who ran for a position on the Student Association Executive Board.

...to all the students who hosted a high school prospective student for the Admissions Overnight Program on November 9th.



Do you love to write?
Want to see your art in print?



Meaure, SJC's very own literary magazine, is now accepting submissions! Poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction, prose, art, and photography are welcomed.

No more than FIVE original works will be accepted from each individual, and all submissions must be TITLED and contain the author's REAL NAME.

Submissions or questions should be sent to the Measure staff at measure-editors@saintjoe.edu.

CLAWS:

...to everyone who tore down campaign signs before the S.A. election came to an end.

...to all the students responsible for littering the IM field with bottles, cans, discarded patio furniture, and other assorted trash.

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P.W.T. Travel to ICSAP Symposium

By Melissa Genova, Staff Writer

On November 7, representatives of Puma Women Today (P.W.T.) went to Indianapolis for a symposium hosted by the Indiana Campus Sexual Assault Prevention Project. The theme was "Casting a Larger Net: Reaching Diverse Student Populations" and the speakers emphasized the importance of being aware of different cultures and traditions when reaching out to those who have been sexually assaulted.

President of P.W.T. Carrie Oswald thought it was important for the club to attend in order to "become more aware of these issues and be able to inform students and faculty on campus."

The event was hosted by Imani Price-Abdebrazzaq, and the first presentation was given by Kimber Nicoletti, the Communities Against Rape (CARE) Minority Outreach Coordinator. Nicoletti's presentation explained her social service experiences with the Latino cultures and why it is often difficult to reach out to victims from these particular cultures.

Following Nicoletti were Mary Pilat, Srinati Basu, and Donita Bowman, professors from Depauw and Purdue universities who all had similar stories to share about their own outreach groups on their respective campuses. Their particular experiences dealt mostly with students from the Middle East and Asia. Pilat shared pictures and experiences from her recent trip to Uzbekistan. "Pilat really made you feel like you knew what those women were going through. She raised awareness on a personal level contrasting our lives," said Oswald. "She would get in a car, go to an airport, get in a plane, and leave the country within days. These women could not grasp that [idea] because their days revolved around finding enough food so that they didn't have to sell their children to prostitution."

The first half of the day was focused on being aware of the sexual assault issue in different cultures. The latter part, though, concentrated on the root of the problem. Linda Chezem was the lunch speaker, and she explained how alcohol consumption on campuses is directly related to sexual assault and rape cases nation-wide. Rus Funk, an author and worker for the Center for Women and Families in Kentucky, was the closing speaker. He denied that men were the problem, but rather the "mas-

culine" culture men were raised in. It is wrong to blame the problem on either sex. He also noted that rape is no longer just an issue that effects women, as men can and have been raped.

Aside from being informative, the event was interactive, as well. After lunch, there was a group discussion session in which the different clubs and organizations in attendance shared information about advocate training, the process of handling rape cases, and starting different advocate groups on their campuses. The SJC students who attended were able to make contacts and get ideas for latter events. "We got insight from some Big Ten universities and other similar organizations near these colleges," said Oswald.

The symposium attendees included students, faculty, and social workers from Purdue University, DePauw University, Lafayette Crisis Center, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Indiana University. Those representing SJC were Carrie Oswald, Melissa Genova, Marie Windler, Elizabeth Wissel, Marco Mendoza, and P.W.T. Faculty Advisor Ary Nelson.

SJC has not had any form of sexual assault victim support since the S.A.F.E.R. branch on campus disbanded two years ago. The P.W.T. became motivated after the forum, though, to re-establish a student support group. Although rape and sexual assault are not seen as pressing issues on the SJC campus, the club believes that it is imperative to have a group of advocates available in case a student is assaulted.

"The most inspirational thing [that I experienced] that day was when I was talking to a graduate student who co-represented Purdue. She started to tear up when she talked about 'Take Back the Night' with me. She was really moved. It was probably most important to me because it was so personal. I would like to see it happen here," said Oswald.

In April, P.W.T. is planning on hosting a "Take Back the Night" event, a week long march for women who have been raped. Also, February 14 is "V-day" – not the traditional Valentine's Day with candy and cards, but instead a nationwide plea to recognize pressing women's issues such as breast cancer and sexual violence.



Photos courtesy of Carrie Oswald.



Left: The P.W.T. group with Frunk and Price.

Right: Wissel working on one of the projects given to the group. Participants were to decorate a heart to represent their views or experiences with rape.

"Trick or Treat for the Hungry" Collects Over 2,000 Canned Goods for Food Pantry

By Renee Pugh, Publications and Media Relations Intern

The Saint Joseph's College Volunteer Corps, a group of students dedicated to serving the College and its surrounding communities, collected 2,312 canned goods during its second annual "Trick or Treat for the Hungry" event. Taking place on Halloween, "Trick or Treat for the Hungry" involves participants donning costumes and visiting homes of Rensselaer residents to collect canned goods. Volunteer Corps members also placed drop boxes in a number of spots on SJC's campus so that employees and students could also participate. All donated food is delivered to a local food pantry.

Ary Nelson, Director of Campus Ministry and advisor to Volunteer Corps, believes this unique program offers students an opportunity to serve others by celebrating the spirit of a popular holiday. "We try to find as many

opportunities to serve the community as possible," explained Nelson. "This is just another activity the students thought would benefit both our club and the community."

The event is in its second year at SJC and has already seen an increase in both success and participation. "Last year, we collected 1,263 cans of food and had 57 students participate, which we thought was fantastic," said Nelson. "This year, we collected 2,312 cans and had 100 students come out to help."

Nelson is thankful for the program's success and proud of the students who helped. "St. Teresa of Avila said that Christ has no hands but our own and no feet but our own," she explained. "Through activities such as 'Trick or Treat for the Hungry,' we are able to effectively be the hands and feet of Christ."



Over Halloween weekend, S.U.B. participated in the annual N.A.C.A. conference in which they were exposed to different aspects of college programming. Among other events, stars such as Colin from MTV Road Rules (top) and Dennis Haskins ("Mr. Belding" from "Saved By the Bell," bottom left) were met, new bands were introduced such as Recycled Persuasion (right), and silly costumes were posed (bottom right).

All photos courtesy of Bridget Newman.

S.U.B. Travels to N.A.C.A.



Important Closing Information:

All campus buildings, including residence halls, will close at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 21st, for Thanksgiving Break. Buildings will reopen at noon on Sunday, Nov. 30th.

Student Kairos Reflection

By Lance Crow, Guest Writer

Throughout this reflection there will be five lines of Scripture inserted at times I deem appropriate so that they might fortify the message the Spirit wishes to convey through this contemplative thought. Joshua 1:5-9 is the selected text, and has been selected not by my own volition, but has been brought to me by the Spirit through one of my dearest friends who heard the Scripture read in church and because of it was inspired, reignited. God speaks in Joshua, just as he speaks to each of those who have ears that they may hear. I ask that you open your hearts and minds while reading this and let your response reflect your contemplative mood. Relax and read.

"I will be with you as I was with Moses: I will not leave you nor forsake you."

Upon packing all of the 'essential' worldly possessions of the SJC students into the Puma Wagon or one of the other vehicles in the caravan, the Josephites board their respective transports, and are led from the all too familiar campus to a land unknown; in the mind it is an imaginary place veiled in mystery and speculation. The beginning of this journey is an exodus, liberation from the walls of your dorm or your apartment. Yet some of those who join the caravan have feelings of doubt, confusion, or regret. I doubt that this will do me any good; I am confused about what is going to happen once we arrive; I regret coming on this retreat. These feelings are only normal when being led by a force larger than oneself. All who have experienced Kairos know now, even though they might not have known at the time, that God was with them as He was with Moses. We were not abandoned in our need nor forsaken in our doubt.

"Be firm and steadfast, so that you may give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers I would give them."

Once you arrive and stow away the belongings which now represent all that you have left behind, those feelings mentioned before might increase, cease, remain constant. Know that you must be firm, steadfast in your commitment to the spirit of Kairos, and to those people who have worked dili-

gently to prepare an unforgettable length of days for you. Know that you will be led into the land which will be right for you to graze upon; your mental and spiritual sustenance shall be provided in due time.

"Above all, be firm and steadfast, taking care to observe the entire law which my servant Moses enjoined on you. Do not swerve from it either to the right or to the left, that you may succeed wherever you go."

I would apply this verse to Kairos in the sense that once you have taken the initial steps of agreeing to attend, and then actually boarding the bus, listen to those who have planned the event, who know better than you the mysteries of the retreat. Each of them has been the Josephite coming unknowingly into the care and guidance of those who have gone before. Know that God has always gone before us; surrender your fears and skepticism and you will succeed during your time with God.

"Keep this book of the law on your lips. Recite it by day and by night, that you may observe carefully all that is written in it; then you will successfully attain your goal."

On a more personal note, take the Scripture along, not as a supplement to the goal of the trip, but as one of the main tenants. God speaks in so many ways, but throughout the ages, He has called vividly and passionately to us through the Bible. Read it, and pray before you do. Pray for wisdom and an open mind and heart that you might hear and understand what you are being told; focus on the higher power. Even if you are unfamiliar with Scripture, stand on your skepticism so that you might take in the prevalent knowledge offered therein. I spent nights reading Psalms and inquiring into the meaning and propriety of praise. I came to know that I praised God less often than I should, and that praise and prayer when gathered in any number, whether two or two thousand, is amplified in the unity of the action. Speak good news, and then look to a goal. Do not set the goal for yourself; you will attain the goal, not know it. It is a gift, the Grace of God.

"I command you: be firm and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you where-

ever you go."

God is with us wherever we go. If we fear, we are not firm, should we doubt, we are not steadfast. This is a command from God, nothing to be taken lightly. So many times we ask what it is God would have us do. In Joshua, He is quite crystalline as to our path of action. Be firm and steadfast. No feelings of fear or dismay ever accosted me for an instant during the course of God's time. I believe it is because I surrendered everything to God and the time we would share. Releasing fears and doubts into God's hands provides a catharsis of immense healing and relief. In the tears I shed upon Kairos, I also shed regret, ill will, and confusion. The moment I knew the tears were good was when I began smiling while crying. Seconds later the smile turned to laughter and joy. These were not the tears of a sad individual, but of an immensely blessed and happy one. Kairos is nothing that intends to change or alter us; it merely attempts to lovingly reintroduce us to ourselves. It is too simple to forget what is truly important in life. Have you forgotten; did you ever know?

College is a brief four-year period of time in which we make friends, lose friends, have fun, and get impossibly pissed off. With all of our studies and extra curricular activities, we sometimes forget what makes college so fun: the people. We sometimes get so lost in the action, participation, and freedom aspects of college that we forget the human side of Saint Joseph's College; we forget our humanity. I ask that we bring our attention back to what is important, back to why this College exists, back to people. Who do you not know today that you could know tomorrow? Who do you know that you could embrace today? Forgetting to do homework is one thing, but forgetting those who share your forgetfulness is another. Go then, and enjoy your fellow Josephites, and when times get inevitably rough, know that each other human on this campus knows of a roughness of which you speak.

In Christ's Love,
Lance Crow

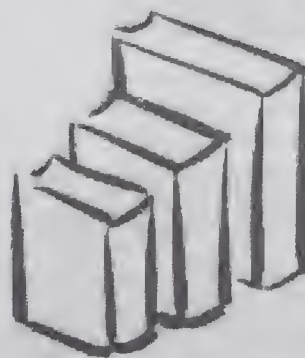
Book Review: Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*

By Liz Henning, Staff Writer

The sprawling estate of Manderly lies cold and desolate in northern England, its silent halls still haunted by the memory of the manor's first mistress, Rebecca de Winter. When the widowed Max de Winter brings his new wife to Manderly, the young woman finds that there are certain things that are never discussed – and that the icy head housekeeper, Mrs. Danvers, still thinks of Rebecca as "Mrs. de Winter." In short, *Rebecca* is an astonishingly chilling novel, interlaced with romance, mystery, and a deeply chilling secret. *Rebecca* is one of those rare books that is (in my experience) loved by women, and loathed by men.

I was reading it at breakfast one morning when a young man I know by acquaintance paused only long enough to say, "What a wretched book...calling it literature gives it far too much credit." Evidently, he found the eloquent descriptions of Manderly both boring and pointless while I found them beautiful lines of poetic prose. A debate over *Rebecca* ensued, in which we argued the strengths and demerits of the style, the length, the plot and the themes in the novel. When we finished arguing, we realized that neither of us had been swayed from our original argument: I still loved it and he still wanted to burn every copy he could find.

So, as *The Observer's* book reviewer, I'm putting forth the challenge to everyone who reads this column, regardless of gender: check out *Rebecca* for yourself, and when you're finished, see what you think.



Styling Sense Refresh Yourself



Jen Zak
Columnist

"I don't get how guys dress today. I mean, c'mon, it looks like they just fell out of bed and put on some baggy pants, and take their greasy hair, Ew! And cover it up with a backwards cap and like, we're expected to swoon? I don't think so!" –Cher from Clueless.

SJC may not be Beverly Hills, but it's true that everyone here tends to dress this way at times. I think it's possible for us to be comfortably casual and "put together" at the same time. There's no doubt that most people attend 8:00 a.m. classes in pajamas and baseball caps, with line marks and circles under their eyes. Trust me; I'm well aware of what I look like early in the morning. There are a couple of easy ways to feel refreshed in the morning, and these simple suggestions will help us all to look and feel our best in class.

The easiest way to do this is to change clothes. I definitely wouldn't be surprised if the clothes people wear to class are ones they have actually slept in. Comfortable sleep clothes make us feel warm and cozy in the morning, hence us not wanting to take them off. Simply putting on different clothes can make one feel as if they have not literally rolled out of bed and gone to class.

If you're feeling especially lazy in the morning, or just want a quick perk-me-up, try Equate 3-1 Facial Cleansing Towelettes (\$3.50 at Wal-Mart); these unisex towelettes refresh and cleanse at the same time, without water or soap.

Finally, try bringing an ice-cold bottle of water along to class and drink up when you start to nod off. We are privileged to be receiving the education we do, and we're also paying a lot for it, so it would be in our best interests to get the most out of even an 8:00 a.m. class.

Patti White Visits SJC

Professor and published poet shares her work

By Joe Larson, Staff Writer

If someone you loved was cremated, what would you do with the ashes? If your first impulse would be to snort them

like cocaine, you might just have what it takes to be a poet. On Thursday, November 13th, in the Courtney Auditorium, visiting poet Patti White read her famous poem "Tackle Box," a work about thieves who mistake the ashes of an elderly fishing enthusiast for a drug. White is the chair-

person of the English Department at Ball State University; she is also the teaching mentor of SJC's very own Maia Kingman, professor of English. In addition to being the name of one of her poems, *Tackle Box* is the title of White's award-winning book of poetry. A sizable crowd- over thirty students in all- was present as White read eleven poems from her book. The topics ranged from a town with a strange name to a woman with an anatomy that is questionable in a way best left unanswered.

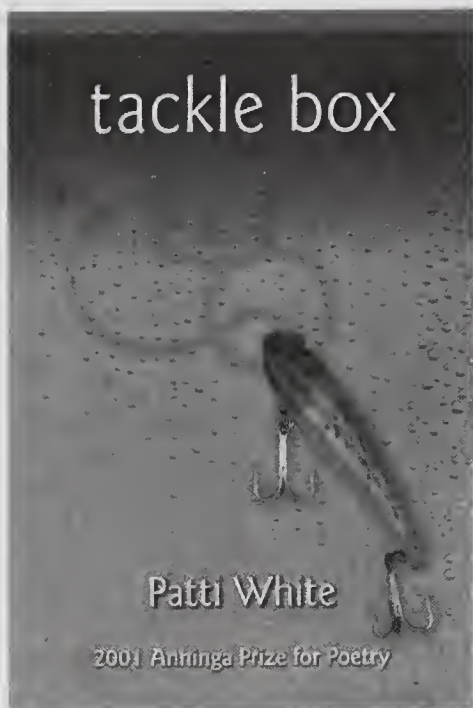
The poetry contained enough profanity and sexual in-

nuendo to keep the attention of the audience. In reference to one of her particularly explicit comments, White said, "Don't

you be quoting me on that. I'll deny it"- further proof that plausible deniability lies at the heart of all creative expression. The evening ended with a showing of an artistic movie based on the poem "Tackle Box."

The film was both humorous and emotion-

ally poignant. This is not the first serious attention that White has gained through her poem about a cremation gone wrong. She once received a call from a man who said that the poem reminded him of his brother, who loved to fish in the Gulf of Mexico. White thanked the man, but he persisted. "You don't understand," he said. "I liked your poem so well that I read it at my brother's funeral. It was just you and Ecclesiastes." Poetry on a Biblical scale is unusual, and such a comparison is either a sign of a very skilled poet or a very blasphemous reader.



Stuff



John Ligda
Columnist

Just last week I went walking through the newly renovated Lourdes Grotto. I was truly impressed with the work that has been done thus far, particularly the well-lit, paved walkways. This renovation project is being made possible through the generous support of the Fellows of the College. As part of the project, generous patrons of the College contributed to purchase new Stations of the Cross, benches, memory gardens, and even the walkways. What struck me was one path in particular, the path that leads from the Halas parking lot into the Grotto. The plaque in the ground reads, "Scientia Path of Knowledge - Dedicated in Memory of 'Prof' Paul Tonner, SJC Music Director 1918-1963."

Paul C. Tonner, better known as "Prof," held the record of the longest period of service by any layman on the schools faculty: 45 years to be exact. He was born and raised in Germany but relocated to the United States in 1911. In 1918 he came to Rensselaer and was hired as the College's music instructor; then the only lay faculty position at the College. His first duties included conducting the College orchestra and serving as the College organist. In addition, he gave private lessons on a variety of instruments and assumed responsibility of the College band in 1921. He organized SJC's first glee club in 1933.

Outside of SJC, Tonner was a well-known composer who published more than 150 pieces of music with many notable publishers. His compo-

sitions ranged from organ to piano, motets, masses, arrangements for instruments, and from church music to secular novelty pieces. Tonner composed the SJC Fight Song which is still played today by the band with a score recently rearranged by Mr. Robb Thiel. Tonner was also the Organist and Choir Director at Saint Augustine Church in town, as well as the band director at Rensselaer High School. He also directed a drum and bugle corps from 1933 to 1943. This group placed second in competition at the 1933-34 Chicago World's Fair.

Tonner did all this and more. Somewhere in all of his activities, he found time to be married and raise ten children. In 1958, Tonner's 40th year on the faculty, the College conferred upon him the honorary doctorate of letters degree for his outstanding service to both the College and the community. Tonner formerly retired from the College in 1963, but remained active as parish organist at Saint Augustine's, through private lessons, and composing. Tonner died in 1984 at the age of 92.

Today, the Tonner name lives on in Rensselaer. His grandson, Ned, is a local attorney. Besides practicing law, Ned, too, possesses his grandfather's musical abilities. He is a recent recipient of the 2002 Video Producer of the Year award from the United Catholic Music and Video Association for his work on The Catholic Artists for Relief album and the song "You Are Not Alone," which took ten Unity Awards. Also featured on this soundtrack is SJC's own voice instructor, Sharon Urbano.

So when you walk through the grotto in the coming months, please take note of the people in whose honor the many walkways, benches, stations, and gardens are dedicated. Chances are, you would find them and their history with the College very interesting.

Taize Reflection

By Becky Scherer, Editor in Chief

One of the major deciding factors that led me to SJC was the idea of a religious atmosphere. I wanted to learn more about the Catholic religion without having it forced upon me, and a voluntary religious education was something promised to me in numerous pamphlets and view books bearing the SJC seal.

My hope, however, of entering the church lightheartedly and diving right in was quickly smashed by my own insecurities and fears. I was too afraid to be amongst devout Catholics who would surely see through my sheep's clothing. So for some time I stifled my rising want to become a part of the church. That is, until I realized that the gaping double doors of the chapel aren't as intimidating as they seem, and are really quite easily opened by untrained hands such as mine.

I learned that there are other ways to converse with God than perching stiffly in a creaky wooden pew in pantyhose and my Sunday best. Music is a venue that recent generations have looked to more and more for explana-

tion and release. Taize utilizes this increasing tendency by calling for the participants to speak to God through song and chants. Prayer is accomplished through community, and although all the contributors sing the same song to the same rhythm, they take with them new and different rhythms to the songs of their own lives. Through an unceremonious group of people, I found the personal connection I needed.

I found it easy to lose myself in the strangely sacred ambiance that Taize manifests. By the light of a candle I followed the measures of music until I didn't need to look anymore to know my part; then I was free to close my eyes and take in the fortitude of Taize.

Informal programs such as Taize serve as sturdy rungs in my ladder to religious enlightenment. Non-denominational, casual, and untailored, Taize has helped me (and, therefore, can help anyone) to reach a different level of my relationship to God.

100 Word Movie Review:



Bend it Like Beckham



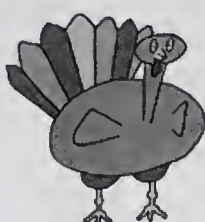
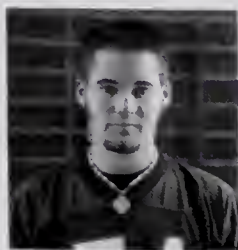
Director: Gurinder Chadha

Cast: Parminder Nagra, Keira Knightly, Jonathon Rhys-Meyers, Anapum Kher, Juliet Stevenson, Frank Harper

I love Jonathon Rhys-Meyers, and I was even more excited that he made a GOOD film (sit through *B.Monkey* - you'll understand). While I could dote on his performance, there are other elements in BILB that I want to rave about. It's a powerful take on the coming-of-age story. It tackles culture, sexual identity, sports pressure, and David Beckham. Nagra plays Jess, an Anglo-Indian whose family and culture discourage her soccer career AND love affair with her Irish coach. Although the storyline is a bit redundant, it still hit my emotions just right and made me want to play soccer again.

-reviewed by Melissa Genova

Adam Mandon Speaks: Giving Thanks for Sports



Ah, it's Thanksgiving again. Time to give thanks for Aunt Gretchen pinching my cheeks to the point of bleeding, to give thanks for Uncle Gus blowing cigar smoke in my face and laughing with his yellow teeth, and to give thanks for the entire family arguing over the price of milk in 1965. This is why there are sports, to remove one's self from the world and enter into fantasy land. For this and for many other reasons, I am thankful. So let us rejoice in the season and recognize our thanks in the sports world.

I am thankful Maurice Claret finally shut up.
I am thankful the Lakers are finally regarded as Shaq's team.
I am thankful Ozzie Guillen is the White Sox's new manager.
I am thankful the Bears are showing potential.
I am thankful the Bulls are producing more results than showing potential.
I am thankful Notre Dame is not overrated.
I am thankful LeBron James and Carmelo Anthony are the real deal.
I am thankful Bill Parcells is still a genius.
I am thankful for college football and rivalries like Ohio State and Michigan.
I am thankful college basketball is finally here again.
I am thankful Kansas City's Tony Pena is American League Manager of the Year.
I am thankful John Shoop and Dick Jauron of the Bears will be fired.
I am thankful the Florida Marlins proved home-grown talent (except Pudge) wins Championships.
Finally, I am thankful Cub fans are still lamenting "Wait 'til next year," and are actually right for once.

Remember when you are sitting at the table, smiling at jokes that are simply not funny, lean back, close your eyes, and enter the world of sports.

Joe King: Observer Athlete of the Issue



Sarah Bozenda, Staff Reporter

Running was something that freshman Joe King was told he had a future in after running the mile in his junior high gym class. To King, running is the one sport that helps him release all of his anger. Growing up in Alsip, Illinois, King ranks his mother and uncle Rob as the two biggest influences in his life, be it running, school, work, and everything in between.

After running for the Brother Rice Crusaders and now for the Pumas, King feels that the workouts are much more intense in collegiate athletics. Cross country in college involves running against schools not only from Indiana, but from other states as well. To King, that raises the competition level greatly from the high school level. King thinks that Athletic Director and Head Coach for the cross country team Bill Massoels is a great coach, adding that there is a "method to the madness." He states that he is proud to run for Massoels.

This past weekend, King finished 66th at Grand Valley State in the Great Lakes Regional Championships, with a personal record time of 34:11. King, Andy VanDeHey, Mike Darnell, and the rest of the Puma runners can be found next season when they go for the National Championships.

Details

Major: Math

Minor: Secondary Education

Favorites

Movie: Happy Gilmore

Book: "Interstellar Pig" by William Sleator

Food: Orange Chicken

Fast Food: Panda Express

Show: Simpsons

Song: "All My Life" by K-Ci and JoJo

Class: Economics

Prof: Teresa Massoels



Attention:

Fans ~ Coaches ~ Teammates

If you would like to nominate a student as the athlete of the issue, please contact Sports Editor Bridget Newman: bnh3998@saintjoe.edu. Briefly explain why you believe the athlete deserves to be praised!

Congratulations to our SJC athletes named to the GLVC 2003 teams.

Volleyball
Player:

Beth Lipinski



Soccer players:

Anna Westwood
Olivia Klosterman
Nicole Nowaczyk
Adrian Llewellyn

Saint Joseph's College Volleyball: Another Season Ended

Allison Segarra, *Staff Reporter*

The Saint Joseph's College volleyball team spent the majority of its season on a rollercoaster ride. When the ride came to a screeching halt there were no hard feelings, but mostly broad smiles in remembrance of fun times had and those yet to come. Although, there were a few tears shed as the team said goodbye to their only senior and captain Beth Lipinski.

The volleyball squad is a well-rounded, close-knit group who support and respect each other at all times and in all situations. I have observed this team on the court and I have spent time with them off the court. They truly care for the well-being of their teammates.

There were five freshman added to the roster this season who are all very friendly. Sophomore Erin Jones made it known that these freshman came out with an intense and upbeat attitude. "They were ready to participate," Lipinski said, "Transitioning from high school to a college atmosphere is always tough. Our freshman adapted well. They were definitely an asset to our team and our success this year."

All of the players this season made an effort towards their goals and a contribution to their team. Sophomore Shelly Figiel has done a phenomenal job of recovering from a knee injury that occurred in March of the last school year. Figiel tore her ACL and some of the surrounding cartilage. She had surgery performed on it in April. August 1 of this school year Figiel returned to the court and spent her season getting her skills back up to the level they were at during the previous season.

So you may be wondering who is the Charlie of these volleyball angels? Coach Ken Murczek is the man who spent

this season scheduling practices, practices, and more practices! I am sure none of these girls will forget their early morning conditioning fully equipped with pilates exercises. At least "Coach Ken" had the decency to join in and subject himself to an equal amount of pain and exertion. He commented that one of the team accomplishments this season was improving players individually and the practices, without a doubt, were a major factor in the progress.

Did these early morning rendez-vous' create animosity between the angels and Charlie? "Coach Ken

Lipinski.

"They are always positive and cheering us on! They work hard and keep us motivated to do the same. They lead by example academically as well as athletically. They make practice that much more enjoyable," Figiel and Jones commented enthusiastically.

Captains Mourey and Lipinski were chosen at the beginning of the season to make general team rules, model behaviors, keep the team organized and on task, and make sure that everyone is happy. "It has been difficult to find the words to say during an up and down sea-



Photo courtesy of www.saintjoe.edu/athletics

wants us to succeed. He applies his own experiences to ours," commented Jones. Figiel gave him credit also: "He knows the game very well." Lipinski said, "He is aggressive and pushes us to be the best of our potential. He loves the game!"

Coach Ken may have been the brains of the outfit, but who kept the blood pumping during the rough ride this season? "Our upperclassmen are the heart and soul of our team," Figiel and Jones admitted. The volleyball upperclass consists of Juniors Karen Miller, Krysten Corley, captain Jill Mourey, and senior captain Beth

son like this one to help the freshman adapt and help everyone communicate with one another. We have tried to keep everyone positive throughout our difficult season this year," stated Lipinski.

After they exit the gates and shake out their hair, will SJC volleyball ride again next season without Lipinski? What is in store for them? Lipinski answered, "After I leave I know this team will go very far. They have so much talent and love for the game, it would be impossible for them not to. They are a well-balanced team that I will be cheering on next year!"

Congratulations to Matt Crick !

Football player Matt Crick caught four passes for 110 yards against Gannon on Saturday, November 8. It was the highest single-game receiving yardage total by an SJC player in seven years.

A Great Sports Quote

Sports do not build
character...They reveal it.

--John Wooden

*The only athlete to be honored in the
basketball Hall of Fame as both
player and coach*

If you're interested in writing for the sports pages
contact Bridget Newman at bnh3998@saintjoe.edu

Gain job-related experience!

Create material for your portfolio!

You have opportunity for advancement!

You will have fun!

Upcoming Puma Games and Updates



Congratulations to all
our Fall Sports on a
great season played!

Basketball

Women:

Nov. 21 - 22

Away

GLVC/GLIAC

Challenge

Indianapolis

T.B.A.

Nov. 29

Home

SIU-Edwardsville

1:00 pm

Dec. 1

Home

Lewis University

6:00pm

Dec. 6

Home

Indianapolis Univ.

1:00pm

Men

Nov. 29

Home

SIU-Edwardsville

3:00pm

Dec. 1

Home

Lewis University

7:45pm

Dec. 6

Home

Indianapolis

3:00pm

Madame Sandra’s Horoscopes

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Be careful what you say to others, as your friends and acquaintances are likely to gossip and spread rumors. Make sure to only pass on information that you know is true, as everything you say is likely to be spread around.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Have you been denied something recently, or have you experienced a serious disappointment? This may be a result of something you brought upon yourself, so avoid pointing fingers until you can identify the true cause of the problem.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Impatience is one of your vices right now, and you feel burdened and inhibited by many of those around you. Take a deep breath and slow down, and you will soon realize that the stress you’ve been causing yourself is avoidable.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Are you eager to spend money on things you don’t really need? Before going shopping, be sure to make a list and stick to it. Buying things you don’t need with money you don’t have will certainly equal trouble in the near future.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

There is a lot of work piling up around you, and even procrastinating for a few minutes can put you behind. If you stay on task and manage your time well, however, you will finish your work efficiently and successfully.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Have you been feeling disconnected from many of your friends, especially those whom you do not see on a daily basis? Keeping in touch through phone calls and emails can quickly remedy this problem and raise your spirits as well!

Libra (September 23-October 23)

Be sure not to smother those around you, as doing so can alienate them and hinder their feelings toward you. Be confident in your relationships and realize that you do not have to be involved in every aspect of your friends’ lives.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21)

You will soon experience a breakthrough in a serious social or romantic problem you have been experiencing. However, do not rely on others to remedy the situation for you—you have to make the first move.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Sometimes it is okay to sit back and let others call the shots, and this is one of those times. Your judgment has been slightly off lately, and allowing others to take control for awhile will benefit all involved.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Your creative insight is very strong right now, and your best insights come in the areas of travel. By planning an extended trip or a simple overnight adventure, you may open a whole new realm of your social and romantic lives.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

It has been difficult for you to express your ideas in words recently, and as a result many of your peers have been reluctant to agree with you. Try explaining things in several different ways, and you will find that many share your views and opinions.

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Your mind is very sharp right now, so working on some type of creative project may prove to be more fulfilling and stimulating than other social activities. Put your whole heart and mind into your work, and you will find much success.

Puzzle Contest: Einstein’s Puzzle

This is a logic puzzle that was supposedly written by Albert Einstein himself in the last century. According to Einstein, the puzzle is so difficult that 98% of the people in the world will not be able to solve it. Are you part of the 2% that can solve Einstein’s puzzle? Work the puzzle out by hand, and the first person to email Sandra at swh4014@saintjoe.edu with the correct answer will win a prize! Winner must have proof that he/she worked the puzzle out himself/herself to claim prize.

- 1. There are 5 houses in 5 different colors. In each house lives a person of a different nationality.
- 2. The 5 owners drink a certain type of beverage, smoke a certain brand of cigar, and keep a certain pet.
- 3. No owners have the same pet, smoke the same brand of cigar or drink the same beverage.

The question is: “Who owns the fish?”

Facts:

- The Brit lives in the red house.
- The Swede keeps dogs as pets.
- The Dane drinks tea.
- The green house is on the left of the white house.
- The green house’s owner drinks coffee.
- The person who smokes Pall Mall rears birds.
- The owner of the yellow house smokes Dunhill.
- The man living in the center house drinks milk.
- The Norwegian lives in the first house.
- The man who smokes Blends lives next to the one who keeps cats.
- The man who keeps the horse lives next to the man who smokes Dunhill.
- The owner who smokes Bluemasters drinks beer.
- The German smokes Prince.
- The Norwegian lives next to the blue house.
- The man who smokes Blends has a neighbor who drinks water.

Good luck! The correct answer will appear in the next issue of The Observer.

Courtesy of <http://puzzles.karplus.org/index.php>

“Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.”

-Abigail Adams

Upcoming Holidays

NOVEMBER

- 20 National Peanut Butter Fudge Day
- 21 World Hello Day
- Community Day
- 22 National Stop the Violence Day
- 23 National Cashew Day
- 24 Womens’ Merrymaking Day
- Children’s Field Day
- National Espresso Day
- 25 Eid-ul-Fitr
- National Parfait Day
- 26 National Cake Day
- 27 Thanksgiving
- Day of the Covenant (Baha’i)
- National Bavarian Cream Pie Day
- 28 National French Toast Day
- 29 National Chocolates Day
- Square Dance Day
- 30 National Mousse Day
- Squirrel Hunt Day

Courtesy of www.web-holidays.com

ATTENTION STUDENTS:

Do you have an original poem, short story, comic, or any other creative expression that you would like to see printed on the Et Cetera page of The Observer? Please contact Sandra at swh4014@saintjoe.edu for information or to submit your work.

SJC Poet’s Corner

Nightmares
A dedication

Does anyone here
Feel the way I do?
Can anyone here
Understand the pain I go through?

How could they see
I don’t want to go home?
No one would see
I’d rather be alone, on my own.

Please, don’t let him hurt me anymore.
Please, what is he doing this for?
Please, won’t someone open the door?

Screams aren’t loud enough
If they’re in your head.
Fear’s not proof enough
You would rather be dead.

It’s so hard to face
What really makes you afraid.
These are the things
Of which nightmares are made.

Someone please pray

Please, don’t let him hurt me anymore.
Please, what is he doing this for?
Please, won’t someone open the door?

Don’t keep it in.
Don’t keep it in.
Don’t keep it in.
Don’t keep it in.

Please, don’t let him hurt me anymore.
Please, what is he doing this for?
Please, won’t someone open the door?

Tonight she must die.

-Bridget Newman

poem to the one that could be
out there

You’re always there to listen
When no one would even care
And finding someone like you
I would say is awfully rare
I’m glad that I was given
The chance to meet you, dear,
Since the day you came to me
I knew I could not fear
When I get to see you
A smile always starts
And every word you say to me
I cherish with all my heart
The moments that I miss the most
Are ones without your voice
And if God granted me one thing
It would be an easy choice
I’d ask to be within your arms
Never to let go
Be where I could feel so safe
Let my heart’s thoughts show
I’d beg for God to let you see
How much it really hurts
To lay alone in bed at night
Without your warm comfort

And finally I’d tell Him
How much I miss you now
And how I would appreciate
If He could tell you how
How much I want to be with you
And spend my life that way
Because for some odd reason
I can’t find those words to say
I don’t know the outcome
That may come with all of this
But I do know at this moment
My love is in your kiss

-Amber Slagal

There she stares
uncaring
unaware of the impact
the fact of her beauty has on me

I should confess
address to her
let her know
the bold emotion growing
the golden glow her smile sows for me

But I fear
she’ll hear the tears of my past
and steer clear
so another impasse happens
as she walks past me
out of my destiny.

-Kenny Shumard

Want to see your poetry in print? Submit your original work of poetry to Sandra Wood at swh4014@saintjoe.edu!!